

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 JERUSA 00299 011444Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----011504 092121 /46

P R 011400Z MAR 77
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4749
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USUN NY

S E C R E T JERUSALEM 0299

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, LE, IS
SUBJ: CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR UN PEACEKEEPING FORCE IN LEBANON

SUMMARY: UN CHIEF COORDINATOR SIILASVUO HAS
ASKED HIS STAFF TO DRAW UP PLAN FOR UN FORCE IN
SOUTHERN LEBANON CAPABLE OF RESTORING AND
MAINTAINING ORDER OR SEPARATING WARRING GROUPS.
INITIAL THINKING AT STAFF LEVEL IS THAT FORCE SHOULD
CONSIST OF FOUR MECHANIZED BATTALIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. RELIABLE UN SOURCE HAS JUST INFORMED US IN
CONFIDENCE GEN. SIILASVUO HAS ASKED HIS STAFF TO
DEVELOP URGENTLY CONTINGENCY PLANS FOR A POSSIBLE
UN PEACEKEEPING FORCE IN SOUTHERN LEBANON.
PLAN SHOULD COVER TYPE, SIZE, LOCATION AND
MANDATE. RE LATTER, PLAN SHOULD COVER POLICE
ACTION (DISARMING COMBATANTS, MAKING ARRESTS
AND IMPOSING CURFEWS), ON ACTING AS BUFFER

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BETWEEN ARMED GROUPS NOW FIGHTING IN THE AREA.

2. SIILASVUO BELIEVES FORCE SHOULD BE OF
SUFFICIENT SIZE SO THAT ITS PRESENCE HOPEFULLY WOULD
PRECLUDE SHOOTING.

3. PRELIMINARY THINKING AT STAFF LEVEL IS A

MECHANIZED FORCE OF FOUR BATTALIONS (APPROXIMATELY 4,700 MEN INCLUDING LOGISTICS). THEY SHOULD BE EQUIPPED WITH APC'S AND POSSIBLY, TANKS. AS TO LOCATION, FORCE WOULD HAVE TO BE PRESENT IN STRENGTH IN MARJAYOUN, BENT JBAIL AND TYRE.

4. SIILASVUO SPOKE TO IDF LIAISON, COL. LEVINSON, FEB. 28 AND GOT IMPRESSION ISRAEL WOULD WELCOME UN FORCE IN SOUTHERN LEBANON.

5. SIILASVUO HAS ALSO ASKED THAT POSSIBILITY OF SMALL ADVANCE CONTINGENT OF 200 MEN BE CONSIDERED, POSSIBLY DRAWN FROM UNEF AND UNDOF.

6. SOURCE OBSERVED THAT TYPE OF FORCE BEING DISCUSSED WOULD BE SOMETHING ENTIRELY DIFFERENT FROM EXISTING UN FORCES IN THE AREA. UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, SOURCE BELIEVES FORCE SHOULD BE EQUIPPED AND PREPARED TO SHOOT IN ORDER TO END FIGHTING. SOURCE ALSO NOT CLEAR WHETHER SIILASVUO HAD BEEN REQUESTED BY UNHQ NEW YORK TO DEVELOP CONTINGENCY PLAN OR ABOVE EXERCISE IS HIS INITIATIVE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Control Number: n/a
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Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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